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Setting the Scene Game Preview

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SETTING THE SCENE

Game Preview

Site: Hanner Fieldhouse (3,897)

Tipoff: 5 p.m.

Listen: [GS Sports Network](#) (pregame show starts a half hour before tipoff) - WHKN 94.9 FM (Statesboro), 630 AM WBMQ (Savannah), 1370 AM WLOP (Jesup)

Watch: [ESPN+](#)

Series: GS leads 43-21, L2

Last Meeting: L, 71-82, 2/2/19 (away)

Promotions

- The Eagles' Senior Day Celebration will take place immediately following game. Fans are asked to stay in their seat following the contest to help recognize seniors Tookie Brown and Montae Glenn for their contributions to Georgia Southern University and Eagle basketball.
- It is TrueBlue Saturday and athletics events on campus include the football spring game at 11 a.m. in Paulson Stadium. It is Geico Alumni Day, presented by The Hudson and The George, and Georgia Southern has invited men's basketball alumni to attend the game and be recognized at halftime. Other promotions are: White Out - wear white and all fans will receive the official new white out rally towel; Free t-shirts will be given to the first 250 students courtesy of the University Store; Cheer Team seniors will be recognized during the game and perform their Nationals routine at halftime

Probable Starters

- #0 - Montae Glenn
- #4 - Tookie Brown
- #10 - Calvin Wishart
- #13 - Quan Jackson
- #53 - Isaiah Crawley

- Georgia Southern plays host to rival Georgia State in its regular-season and home finale Saturday at 5 p.m. in Hanner Fieldhouse. The game will air live on ESPN+.
- The teams are in a three-way tie for first place in the Sun Belt Conference, and the winner will earn a share of the league's regular-season title and at least one of the top-2 seeds in the upcoming league tournament.
- The top two seeds earn a double bye into the semifinal round, while the third and fourth-seeded

teams receive a bye into the quarterfinals. Georgia Southern can finish no lower than third.

- One point will be on the line in the Southern vs. State Rivalry Series, which State leads 7-4.
- It's the second meeting between the teams, and Georgia State won the first contest 82-71 in Atlanta back on Feb. 2.
- GS has won its last six and is coming off an 81-70 win over Arkansas State last Saturday.
- The Eagles have posted 20 wins in consecutive seasons for the first time in 30 years. The last time GS won 20 games two years in a row was in 1987-88 (24-7) and 1988-89 (22-6). GS has now has three 20-win seasons in the last five years.
- GS ranks second in the country in field goal percentage (.505) and 13th in scoring, averaging 83.4 points a game. The Eagles have scored 80-plus 16 times, 90-plus seven times and over 100 three times. GS has shot 50 percent or better in 16 contests and 60 percent or better three times.
- GS ranks second in the Sun Belt in turnover margin (+2.2), 21st in the NCAA in turnovers forced (16.1) and 28th in steals (8.0).
- Georgia Southern has finished in the top-3 in four of their five seasons in the Sun Belt and has 58 conference victories, tied with UTA for the third-most since 2014. GS and UTA are currently the only Sun Belt schools to reach double-digit conference wins in each of the last five seasons.
- Tookie Brown ranks fourth on the Sun Belt career scoring list and ninth on the NCAA active career scoring list. He is four steals away from 200 for his career and the only player in Sun Belt history with over 2,000 points and 500 assists.
- Brown has been named to the Lou Henson Award Midseason Watch List. The award is given to the Mid-Major Basketball Player of the Year at the Final Four.
- Senior Montae Glenn is two blocked shots away from 100 for his career. He is currently ranked first on Georgia Southern's career field goal percentage list (.591) and his .641 shooting percentage this season is currently a school record.
- Senior Ike Smith will sit out the rest of the season and seek a medical hardship waiver to regain a year of eligibility. Smith, who has amassed 1,480 career points and 492 rebounds, played in the first 10 games of the season and averaged 14.7 points and 5.7 boards for the Eagles, and Georgia Southern is 12-7 since he has been out.
- Injuries have kept Georgia Southern from having its full roster available for any game this season, and three opening day starters have missed a combined 25 contests. GS has used eight different starting lineups.
- The Eagles are 10-3 in Hanner Fieldhouse this season, 60-21 under Mark Byington and 35-11 in Sun Belt contests.
- The defending Sun Belt Tournament champion, Georgia State is 4-1 in its last five and coming off an 83-70 win over Little Rock last Saturday.
- Preseason Sun Belt Player of the Year D'Marcus Simonds ranks sixth in the league in scoring (18.9 ppg), and Devin Mitchell ranks first in 3-point field goal percentage (.448) and second in 3-pointers made per game (3.4).
- All five members of Georgia State's starting line-up are averaging in double figures as the Panthers have knocked down 301 3-pointers this year, second-most in program history and No. 18 in the NCAA this season.
- The Panthers are the only team in the country with four players having made 50 or more 3-pointers this season and join Duke and Kentucky as the only programs to have four players with 20 or more blocked shots.

The Series

- Georgia Southern leads the all-time series, which began in 1948, 43-21, but the Panthers are 12-6 in the last 18 meetings and have won seven of the last 10.
- Georgia Southern is 27-5 against Georgia State at home and has won the last six meetings. The Panthers have not won in Hanner since 1996.
- Five of the Eagles' last six wins in the series have all been by five points or less, and two were in overtime.
- Georgia Southern was 16-3 against the Panthers from 1985-1992, when both schools were members of the TAAC. The Eagles were 3-0 against the Panthers in the TAAC Tournament.
- Southern won all seven meetings before the Eagles began the Division I era in 1971-72.
- Georgia State topped the Eagles 38-36 in the 2015 Sun Belt Championship. It was the lowest-scoring Sun Belt game since the shot clock era began and the only time the teams have played in the Sun Belt Tournament. The Panthers are 2-0 against the Eagles in the SBC Tournament.